



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

June 4, 2021

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## Regional Conferences in Full Swing

*By Betsy Huber, National Grange President*

Last weekend I attended the Great Plains Region Leadership conference and I can't express how wonderful it was to travel, to see other Grangers, to learn new things, and to be able to hug old and new friends! Thank God for the vaccine!

Oklahoma State Grange put on an educational, entertaining, and fun conference. Thank you so much! Workshops were taught on Mentoring, Organizing your Grange Records, and Code Reading. We all tried our hands at basket weaving, which was a lot of fun—interesting to see how different each basket turned out when we started with the same materials and the same instructions!

A fierce corn hole competition followed, and I must brag to say that Amanda and I came in second place, beat out only by a “pro” team of two young men with much more experience. Great fun!

There were quite a number of entries in the youth and Junior public speaking and sign-a-song contests; they all put on a great performance for the audience Saturday evening. Congratulations to all!

There are four more Regional Conferences coming up this summer. If you are not in the MidAtlantic or Great Plains regions, you still have the chance to participate in one of these great events. Check out the list of Events on the National Grange website and register right away for your regional. I guarantee you will have a wonderful time, see old friends and make new ones, and learn something that you can put into practice to help your local Grange.

Next up – Midwest Regional June 25-27 at Boone County Fairgrounds, with a virtual option if you're not quite ready to travel. I'm sure they would welcome Grangers from other regions too.

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## Brochure Available to introduce New Members to Grange meetings

*By Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership, Leadership Development and Communications Director*

Have you begun meeting again at your hall and had individuals express interest in attending or joining your Grange?

Do you meet in a traditional fashion with a full opening and the hall fully set up? Do you find yourself explaining much of what just happened to prospective members not used to our language or ritual work?

If so, a new brochure available through the Membership Department. The brochure is full color and prints on legal sized paper. It is available for sale through the Grange Supply Store.

The brochure, called “Sneak Peak: What to Expect when you Visit a Grange Meeting,” includes a glossary of terms, the layout of a traditional Grange meeting, the order of business and some basic explanation for the process of our work.

The idea came about thanks to suggestions from a team of Grange Cultivators from the Northeast region. Cultivators are individuals hand-selected to help find new ideas for the membership department and Good of the Order who have been meeting over the past few months to identify areas that the Grange can address large and small to encourage growth. More tools and opportunities will be available soon because of suggestions of Cultivator teams around the country.

“This is a great tool to introduce visitors and prospective members to the parts of our meeting that we do automatically, but may be unusual or strange to them,” said National President Betsy Huber. “I hope all Granges will purchase few of these brochures to keep on hand for use when needed.”



Of course, there's still work to be done by you – to get prospective members in the doors to see the good your Grange does that is planned in your meetings and to welcome them with open arms into their new Grange family.

You may sign into your member account on the [nationalgrange.org](http://nationalgrange.org) website to access the Office Depot discount card or contact Benefits Director Loretta Washington at [lwashington@nationalgrange.org](mailto:lwashington@nationalgrange.org) or by calling (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

## **Fellows Application is Live**

Any Grange member interested in participating in a rigorous, hands-on training program in communications, with additional resources for membership, programming and engagement, is invited to apply for the 2021 Communication Fellows program.

This program is made possible thanks to generous funders, but there are a limited number of spots available. Fellows receiving the bulk of their training during a 8-day experience at the 155th Annual National Grange Convention, held this year Nov. 6-14 in Wichita, Kansas. Those selected also are expected to make time for several teleconferences between July and October, as well as a few brief assignments prior to the start of National Convention.

This year, Fellows will hear from the National Master, National Grange Staff and Officers, other communications professionals and more. Fellows will produce content for the daily convention newsletter, interviews and content for our social media channels and stories/elements for Good Day!™ magazine, livestream events – and much more.

This is a hands-on training with a support from many of the more than 45 previous Fellows who have participated in the program since 2012. Those previous Fellows now hold many significant offices and jobs in their State and National Grange and often credit the program with providing them insight into the differences across State Granges and the opportunities and challenges to the organization, as well as great motivation for being part of our next 150+ years of service.

Any Grange member in good standing may apply, but all applicants must have a nomination letter from a State President/National Delegate; National Officer; National Grange Staff Member or past Communication Fellow.

The deadline for all materials to be submitted by email to the National Grange Communications Department via email ([kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org)) is PRIOR to “start of business” (9 a.m. Eastern) Thursday, July 15th.

We strongly encourage those who have not participated in the program previously to apply and will be given the highest priority.

If you have any questions about the program please contact [kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org)

## **Grange Benefit**

Receive up to 56% off on Lenovo tech, smart devices and accessories that keep you going – now through June 30, 2021. Offer valid while supplies last.

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**LIVE CONCERT  
7 P.M. THURSDAY, NOV. 11**

## PETERSON FARM BROTHERS

*Nationally known brothers whose parody songs bring the message of agriculture far beyond their Central Kansas farm*

### FREE WITH CONVENTION REGISTRATION

(\$25 for public with no convention registration)

**Convention attendees can add a meet-and-greet experience with the Peterson Farm Brothers after the show for only \$15**

Greg, Nathan and Kendal will speak to National Grange Youth and Junior convention attendees throughout the day Thursday



# SUPPLY STORE

[www.grangestore.com](http://www.grangestore.com)



### Grange Sympathy Cards

Inside Text: "In this time of sorrow, your Grange friends offer their thoughts and prayers to comfort you and bring you peace."

Limited Quantity Available Buy Now!

Cost is \$3.00 plus shipping

Retractable Grip Pen - \$.75 ea

JG Lunch Bag - \$3.00 ea

Magnet, 4.25" W x 4.75" H,

.03 thickness - \$2.50 ea

Front Line Hero Pins - \$2.50 ea

Playing Cards - \$8.00 ea

Stuffed Cow or Duck - \$12.00 ea



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